

I believe that NJ's Do Not Call laws should stand as is - and the Federal Government should adopt more stringent laws to prevent unsolicited phone calls. Everyone should be able to opt out of telemarketers' calls altogether, especially people with disabilities and severe health issues should be able to opt out of ALL unsolicited calls. I find telemarketers phone calls to be unacceptably intrusive and even dangerous. I am a disabled cancer survivor with severe health issues, and I am tired of painfully hobbling to the phone only to find out that it's a telemarketer trying to sell me something I don't want, don't need, and can't afford. And just because I've done business with some company in the past 18 months doesn't mean that I want them pestering me mercilessly every week or two (case in point - Omaha Steaks; you send someone a gift at Christmas and they harrass you to buy more every few weeks). If I've found them once to do business with them, I'll find them again if I need something. In my case, and in other handicapped/disabled people's cases, telemarketers can actually pose an indirect threat to our health by either forcing us to struggle to pick up the phone, by disturbing us during restorative daytime naps and by unduly frightening us when we're expecting emergency calls or news from our doctors. And no, I shouldn't have to turn off my phone and risk missing a "real" phone call. I already pay to have my phone number unlisted, and I feel this should be enough to prevent telemarketers from calling me. What do we need to do - pay them protection money to get them to stop calling? As far as I'm concerned, telemarketers are just as guilty as e-mail spammers. Let NJ's laws stand!